

Public Update from the Report to Board November 2025

The Near North District School Board (NNDSB) remains committed to the successful completion and future occupancy of the new Parry Sound JK–12 School. The Near North District School Board (NNDSB) continues to make steady progress toward the completion and eventual occupancy of the new Parry Sound JK–12 School. Appendix A and the items outlined below provide a snapshot of the ongoing and completed work. Progress has been slower than anticipated in certain areas.

This report provides Trustees with a current overview of the project’s status and highlights the work underway to bring the new school to completion.

Progress Update

Since the last reporting to the Board of Trustees on October 14th regular classrooms, both elementary and secondary, now have millwork, sinks, whiteboards, tackboards, finished flooring, lighting, and communications consoles completed, marking a significant step forward. The Child Care and EarlyON areas have completed their teaching spaces, with only minor items—such as the installation of commercial appliances in food servery areas—remaining.

New classroom furniture has been ready for delivery for some time. The process of receiving and tagging items for installation is expected to begin in the coming weeks. The gymnasium flooring is complete and ready for bleacher installation, while the athletic training room has been prepared to receive workout equipment transferred

Special features such as the lobby ceilings and cafetorium are nearing completion and are expected to create a warm and welcoming first impression at the main entrance. The hexpod portable classrooms have had their exterior decks completed and are now awaiting final electrical hookups and inspections. Additionally, specialty spaces— including Science Labs, the Fine Arts classroom, the Learning Commons, Indigenous Studies, Dramatic Arts, and the Hospitality/Foods program—are ready for use once furniture is installed.

Ongoing Construction Deficiency Inspection

A construction deficiency inspection is a normal but formal review process used to identify incomplete, incorrect, or substandard work in a building project. It is conducted by the

prime consultant who is responsible for ensuring construction quality and compliance. While this process is standard, it is disappointing that, at this advanced stage of the JK-12 school project, the prime consultant continues to identify a number of deficiencies across various areas including areas previously mentioned in this report. These findings indicate that several components expected to be complete remain outstanding, delaying the full readiness of the facility.

Next Steps Beyond Occupancy

Once students from the current on-site Parry Sound High School (PSHS) building have been relocated to the new JK–12 facility, the following activities are scheduled to occur as part of Phase 2 of the project:

- The existing two-story building will be demolished to make way for site redevelopment.
- Rock blasting will be conducted after school hours and on weekends to minimize disruption; this may incur additional costs.
- Underground civil works will be carried out to support infrastructure upgrades.
- Curbs and sidewalks will be installed to enhance accessibility and safety. Asphalt paving will be completed to finalize roadways and parking areas.
- The site will be graded to ensure proper drainage and prepare for surface treatments.
- Landscaping will be undertaken to improve the aesthetic and environmental quality of the site.
- Cleaning and road marking will be performed to prepare the site for full operational use.

The Near North District School Board remains committed to delivering a high-quality learning environment that meets the diverse needs of students from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12. While challenges have emerged during various stages of construction, the Board continues to work diligently to ensure that the new Parry Sound JK–12 School is safe, functional, and welcoming upon opening. However, the NNDSB is not in receipt of an approved construction schedule that can reliably predict when occupancy will be possible. The completion of Phase 1 and the transition to Phase 2 will mark a significant milestone in the Board’s long-term vision for educational excellence and community development.